



## Dedicated to Preserving our Heritage Resources

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Spring 2022

The calendar says it should be Spring. But the poor daffodils are struggling and more snow is called for. Promises for warmer temperatures coming soon!

Middlesex Centre Archives has been open since February and a busy time has been had. Researchers have booked appointments most days that the Archives has been open. Requests from afar for research have been received, and our volunteers have been filling those orders. As well donations of materials continue to come in every week. It is amazing the variety of donations that are received – paintings, family histories, family pictures, documents and letters. All are wonderful. As well, we have a photo of Dr. Ken Veldhuis in place for the Dr. Ken Veldhuis Reading Room. As soon as our plaque is available, there will be a formal dedication for the Reading Room.

Our Archivist, Krista, and the volunteers have been busy cataloguing the London Township Book collection. It is a massive collection and all sorts of wonderful treasures are being discovered. As well as past donations, the new donations also need cataloguing and filing. Indeed, the Archives is always busy. It is a great place to volunteer. If you would like to become a volunteer, please contact the Archives.

No sooner was the Archives open than our popular Middlesex Centre Archives Auction took place on February 10<sup>th</sup>. The place to be from February 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> was monitoring the Filson Online Auction site. There were incredible donations from our members, the community and local businesses. The auction raised over \$8,300 for the Archives. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who participated.

Thank you to Forest City Business Equipment Inc. for donating a photocopier for Annex A. The Archivist and volunteers no longer have to bring copying to the Archives' Office.

Our annual Heritage Fair had to be postponed from February 19<sup>th</sup> to April 9<sup>th</sup>. Once again, it was an incredible success. More historical groups than ever registered to participate. As Covid numbers started to increase, a few

groups had to withdraw as members contracted the virus. However, the participants still numbered more than other years. With Covid protocols in place, including proof of vaccination, mask-wearing and social distancing, the day was highly successful with a great turnout of visitors. The South Lobo Women's Institute's snack and food booth was a favourite place to visit too. Thanks to Dave Zavitz for co-ordinating this event once again. Next year, we are looking forward to being bigger and better than ever.



The Annual General Meeting was held via Zoom on March 30<sup>th</sup>. The budget for 2022 was set at Projected Revenues of \$57,650 while Projected Expenses are \$57,000. The needed funds must be raised through grants and monetary donations. Drop into the Archives and see the Recognition Boards for donors.

The Statistics for MCA are impressive:

	2021	Total 2013-2021
Visitors	60	945
Volunteers Hours	2,771	23,399
Acquisitions	42	797

At this meeting we acknowledged the hard work of three retiring Directors - Sharon McMillan, Gail Prior and Glenna Ladell. All have worked hard and will not be strangers to the Archives as they continue to volunteer. New members to the Board are Glenn Scarborough and Frank Berze. There is still one Director position to be filled. Please let the Archives know if you are interested in becoming a member of our dedicated, dynamic group.

The Executive for 2022 include:

- Past Chair – Bev Hughes
- Chair – Carol Small
- Vice-Chair – Dave Zavitz
- Secretary – Bev Hughes
- Directors-At-Large – Mary Vanderwal  
Glenn Scarborough  
Frank Berze
- Treasurer – Ken Filson

As we look forward to Spring and into Summer 2022, some of our outreach activities are returning with such events as the celebration of 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Poplar Hill Park at the Poplar Hill Picnic on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Look for

our displays there. To-date, MCA will also have a display at the Irish Heritage Fair at Fanshawe Pioneer Village on August 4<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned as the Board of Directors will be confirming more outreach events.

The Archives, including Annexes A and B, are open under Covid Protocols:

1. Proof of vaccination
2. Mandatory mask wearing
3. Social distancing
4. Appointment only

To see what is happening at the Archives, check our website or our Facebook site. Follow us on Twitter @MiddlesexArchiv

Please stay safe!

Regards,

Carol Small  
Chair  
Board of Directors  
Middlesex Centre Archives



**Heritage Fair 2022**